

The following list consists exclusively of varieties remarkable for their quality and easy culture, and which can be obtained at a low price. The varieties are those we grow most extensively for market, and are therefore adapted for conservatory decoration :—

HYACINTHS.—Double Red : *Panorama, Madame Zeutman, Rose Mignonne, Groot Voorst, Waterloo*. Double White : *La Virginité, Penelope, Virgo, A-la-Mode, Anna Maria, La Tour d'Auvergne*. Double Blue : *A-la-Mode, King of the Netherlands, Prince Frederick, Lord Wellington, Grand Vedette, Prince van Saxe-Weimar*. Single Red : *Homerus*, the earliest red ; *Veronica, Belle Quirine, Diebitsch Sabalkanski, Lord Wellington, Amy, Norma, Robert Steiger, L'Ami du Cœur*. Single White : *Elfrida, Alba superbissima, La Candeur, La Pucelle d'Orléans, Madame Turc, Voltaire*. Single Blue : *L'Ami du Cœur, Baron von Tuyl, Charles Dickens, Emericus, Emilius, Fleur Parfaite, Bleu Aimable, Grand Lilas*.

TULIPS.—Single : *Bizard Verdikt, Jagt Van Delft, Lac Van Rhyn, La Reine, Duc Van Thol*, in several colours ; *Duchesse de Parma, Silver Standard, Yellow Prince*. Double : *Duc Van Thol, Duke of York, Gloria Solis, Rex Rubrorum, Tournesol, Yellow Rose*.

NARCISsus.—*Double Roman, Gloriosa, Grand Monarque, Grand Primo, Groot Voorst, Paper White, States General*.

TOWN ROSES.

BY GEORGE GORDON.



NO doubt a considerable number of the readers of the FLORAL WORLD know, to their cost, that the cultivation of roses in towns is a far more difficult task than in the country, where the atmosphere is at all times pure and free from the noxious smoke, which is such a great enemy to town and suburban gardeners. It is, therefore, especially necessary that the suburban gardener should be well advised upon the principal points in the culture of the rose ; and as the season for buying and planting is once more at hand, it has occurred to me that a few practical remarks upon these important matters will be of especial service to a large body of readers.

Standard roses are, it may be said with safety, most objectionable in country gardens, excepting in the rosarium proper, for they are far from pleasing in appearance, even when in bloom they are quite surpassed by bush roses ; but in suburban gardens they are objectionable on two grounds—the first their ugliness, and the second their utter inability to withstand the injurious effects of a vitiated atmosphere. Of the truth of this we have only to take stock of the gardens in the suburbs of any of the large towns, and of every hundred standard roses met with, at least eighty will be in a starving and miserable condition ; especially is this the case when the grass is allowed to grow close up to the stems, or when they are

used as trellises to train canary creepers and other climbers to. From the foregoing remarks it may be inferred that to ensure success in rose growing near towns, dwarf roses alone must be grown, and the wise man will purchase those only on their own roots, in preference to those worked upon the Manetti or other stock. Much might be said upon this point, but it will suffice to say that no matter what the rose may be the stock is the same; therefore we are dealing with the dog rose or Manetti, so far as soil, manuring, and watering is concerned, and certain it is neither of these stocks succeed anywhere so well as in a breezy, open situation, far away from the town. We have also to remember that worked roses are not unfrequently killed by the severity of the winter, but in the case of those on their own roots, it is a matter of comparatively small importance if they are cut down to the ground line, for the following spring they will be able to produce a strong growth from the base. There will of course be a small display of flowers the summer following, but that will be as nothing compared with the total loss of a large number of plants. Moreover, dwarf roses are not so quickly affected by the impurity of the atmosphere as the tall standards, and they are also cheaper to purchase.

Roses must have air, and therefore instead of their being planted, as is frequently done, near boundary fences, buildings, and under the shade of trees, they should be planted in the most open position the garden will afford, and that, as a rule, will be somewhere near its centre. This of course has special reference to the growth of roses in the small strips of garden ground attached to villas near town; in moderately open situations, from six to eight miles from town, the selection of a position for the rose beds will be attended with less difficulty, as they will do well in any part of the garden beyond the influence of large trees.

In the planting of roses it is necessary that it should be clearly understood that they grow and flower better in a deep and rather heavy loam, and if the soil is of a light and hungry character, it must be improved by the liberal addition of clayey loam and partly decayed stable manure. Soils of a very close and retentive character may be materially improved by a dress of road scrapings and manure.

As the roses should not occupy too great a portion of the garden, the preparation of the soil will not be a very serious matter, and in the majority of cases two loads each of manure and loam will be ample, and in preparing a bed for twenty or thirty bushes, a load each will be sufficient. The soil must be turned up to a depth of fifteen or twenty inches, and the new stuff well incorporated with the staple. This should be done, if practicable, a few weeks before the roses are planted, as the soil will then undergo a slight pulverization, and be in a better working order when the planting is done.

Early buying is most important, for the simple reason that those who buy first have the best choice of sorts, and are able to plant at the proper time, *i. e.*, the early part of November. The soil at that period is generally in a nice workable condition, and invariably much warmer than later on or in the spring. The only place from which roses should be purchased is a respectable nursery, for those met

with at shop-doors or auction-rooms are seldom true to name, and always more or less injured by exposure during the time they have been out of the ground. The roots are very soon injured by exposure to the atmosphere, and should therefore be out of the ground as short a time as possible, and be protected in some manner during their transit from the nursery to the garden. Roses on their own roots do not make such rapid progress during the first two years as those upon the brier, and it will be necessary to be satisfied with plants rather smaller. They will, however, soon attain the same size as the others, and in course of time even surpass them. To ensure a good display from the first, the distance between the plants should be about three feet each way. During the first summer, geraniums and other flowering plants may be put between them, but they must, under no consideration, be stifled by the growth of other things. Tread the soil about the plants very firm, and if the expense is not a serious matter, spread a layer of partly decayed manure over the surface. In March prune the previous season's growth to the second or third joint, and in subsequent years prune according to the character of growth, and the growth made by each plant. To maintain a vigorous growth, a moderate dressing of manure will be necessary every year. It should be applied in the autumn, and then turned in without injuring the roots.

It must be understood that all the varieties are not alike suitable for the neighbourhood of towns, and in the list here given especial care has been taken to include none but the most suitable for the purpose indicated:—

HYBRID PERPETUAL.—*Alfred Colombe, Baroness Rothschild, Baronne Prevost, Charles Lefebvre, Comte de Nanteuil, Docteur Andry, Duchesse de Morny, Elie Morel, Eugène Appert, François Treybe, François Lacharme, Général Jacqueminot, La France, Jean Goujon, John Hopper, Jules Margottin, Lord Raglan, Louise Darzins, Madame Charles Wood, Madame Clémence, Madame de Cambacères, Madame Domage, Madame Knorr, Pierre Notting, Prince Camille de Rohan, Vicomte Vigier, Vicomtesse Vezins, Victor Verdier.*

BOURBON PERPETUAL.—*Emotion, Rev. H. Dombtrain.*

BOURBON.—*Prince Albert, Souvenir de la Malmaison.*

CHINA.—*Common China, Mrs. Bosanquet.*

MOSS.—*Baron de Wassender, Common, Luxembourg.*

HYBRIDS OF CHINA AND BOURBONS.—*Charles Lawson, Coupe d'Hebe, Paul Ricaut, Paul Perras, Vivid, William Jesse.*

THE SHABBY WAY.—When "London Scenes and London People" appeared, it was noticed in these pages with some amount of approbation, with which it appears the publishers are satisfied. In the *City Press* of August 9, our notice is reproduced in the form of an advertisement, and a novel method has been invented to turn it to account so that it may benefit "London Scenes" and render no service whatever to FLORAL WORLD. At the end of the notice is appended, "the F. WORLD." Only one in a thousand, perhaps, of the readers of the *City Press*—that is to say, the *C. Press*—will know what is meant by the shabby acknowledgment.